



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

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January 15, 2004

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Ms. Jennifer Zakaras
15408 Hamilton Street
Omaha, NE 68154

RE: 2098 E. 5th Street Extension, and 2098A E. 5th Street Extension, Libby, Montana

Dear Ms. Zakaras:

To support a property/financial transaction, you requested a letter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the status of the Wickstrom property at 2098 E. 5th Street Extension in Libby, Montana. According to our records, there are two addresses there: 2098 E. 5th Street Extension and 2098A E. 5th Street Extension. As part of our Superfund investigation, our contractors conducted an inspection of this property. The purpose of the inspection was to identify potential sources of Libby asbestos, such as vermiculite attic insulation, and to collect soil samples if necessary. The inspectors did not observe any vermiculite insulation at 2098 E. 5th Street Extension. Some vermiculite insulation was observed in the attic of 2098 E. 5th Street Extension. No vermiculite was observed in the soils at either address. We collected soil samples, but have not yet analyzed them. Until soil samples are analyzed, we do not expect conditions to change significantly and cannot reinspect the property at this time.

Due to the presence of vermiculite insulation at the 2098A address, additional investigation and cleanup will be required. We do not yet have a firm date for this cleanup. If soil samples ultimately show elevated levels of asbestos, soil cleanup may be required also. Any cleanup will be performed by EPA at no cost to the owner, either current or future. The details of any cleanup will be discussed and agreed upon with the owner prior to any work. If you have any questions, please contact the EPA Information Center in Libby at 293-6194.

Sincerely,

Jim Christiansen
Remedial Project Manager

